# St Paul's Newsletter – 20.7.23

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### Headteacher's Message

Dear St Paul's Families,

Another busy week! Monday's Enterprise Event was absolutely brilliant and the Y6 children outdid themselves. They had such creative ideas and put a huge amount of effort into making, baking, producing and designing good quality products. Years 3, 4 and 5 had a brilliant time visiting stalls, trying their hand at different games and activities and tasting a range of home-made goods. I wouldn't be surprised to see some of our young entrepreneurs appearing in future episodes of Dragon's Den or The Apprentice.

Year 6 are officially too cool for primary school! After a very heartfelt and poignant Leavers' Service on Tuesday, they rounded off the term with a fabulous Y6 Disco last night. Thank you to our fantastic PTA and army of parents, who gave the children a night to remember, and to the members of the Year 6 team who stayed to help. Talking of the PTA, they have raised a phenomenal £9342 for the school this year. This is an amazing achievement and credit to our tiny, hardworking committee!

Watching Y6 being clapped out across the playground this afternoon was very special and whilst they are definitely ready to go, we were sorry to say goodbye to them for the very last time. Thank you very much for your cooperation in clearing the way so that we could focus on their departure.

We are also saying farewell to Hayden, 3H, Rufus, 5D and Evan 5K – wish them every happiness at their

new schools. Mrs Cox, Learning Mentor, is off to work with young people in Bracknell and our lovely Mrs Westlake, also a member of the Learning Mentor team, is leaving St Paul's after fourteen years of dedicated service. Much loved and respected, she will be sorely missed by everyone here, but we wish her well for her future at St Teresa's.

Congratulations to Annette Medhurst, who was recently elected to Wokingham Town Council. This exciting new opportunity came at the same time as the culmination of her four-year term of office as a Governor of our school. Annette has been a driving force on the FGB and a staunch supporter and advocate of the work of the school. We would like to express our thanks to her on behalf of the pupils, staff, parents and fellow governors.

Thank you very much for your positive feedback regarding our new look pupil reports. We agree the new streamlined version has all of the information you need 'at a glance' and ensure that there is an opportunity to celebrate your child's progress and achievements, as well as the wonderful individuals that they are. If you could return your feedback slips, we would be very grateful - the start of next term will be absolutely fine.

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 5th September. In the meantime, have a good summer everyone!

#### Mrs Taylor

#### **Brilliant News!**



Congratulations to Lola, 5K, who completed trials for the girls Wokingham District Football Team for a second year running. Well done also to Anaya, 5S, who was also picked to play in the team this year. Well done to both girls! We had a number of Y4 pupils who took part in the trials but we have yet to hear the outcome.

Lola also trialled alongside lots of other girls from across Berkshire and was awarded a place in the girls' U11 RFC's Emerging Talent Squad.

Congratulations are also due to Dolly (6T) who has been invited to compete in an Under 16 International Cheerleading Squad. We wish her every success with this new venture!











#### Mini Mayor Competition 2023

Congratulations to Aarna (5S), Aston Brown (5D) and Gautam (5K) for being chosen as the entries from St Paul's. After writing a fantastic letter each, detailing why they should be considered for the prestigious role of Mini Mayor, they were invited to tea with the Mayor, at the Town Hall. Whilst the Mayor chosen this year is a pupil from another local school, nevertheless, we are tremendously proud of Aarna, Aston and Gautam for getting through to the final round and for being such good ambassadors for our school.

#### **School Meals**

Please note that the price of a school meal will increase from £2.30 to £2.53, from the start of the Autumn Term.

#### **Parent Governor Recruitment**

The Governing Body of the school is seeking to recruit 3 new parent governors to join them this year. Please look out for the formal notification that will be at the beginning of next term sent out via parent mail next inviting nominations. We are hoping that appointments can be made in time for the first full meeting of the Governing Body in October. If you would like any more information about the role or the process of appointment, please email (Pauline.Wells@stpaulswokingham.sch.uk).

Pauline Wells - Clerk to the Governors

#### Summer Reading Challenge & Activities

Please see updated schedule of events and information about the Summer Reading Challenge:

https://wokinghamboroughlibraries.wordpress.com/2023/07/18/ready-set-read-summer-activities/

https://wokinghamboroughlibraries.wordpress.com/2023/06/21/summer-reading-challenge-2023/

#### Uniform

We are changing the way that you order school uniform. This can now be ordered directly through the Gooddies website using the following link: <u>https://www.gooddies.co.uk/product-category/schools/st-pauls-c-of-e-junior-school-schools/</u>

We hold samples of garments to allow parents to see the quality and to try on for size before ordering. Please ask at the School Office for further information. The cut off dates for orders are 15th and 31st of the month (or last day of the month). Delivery is normally 10 working days following the cut off dates. Order up to midnight on the 15th of the month; receive delivery at the end of the same month. Orders placed before midnight on the last day of the month will be delivered approximately the middle of the following month. Please allow up to 20 working days from cut off during busy months of June – September.

Orders placed during the Summer holidays can be collected from the school office on 4th September. You can choose from free delivery to school, or a home delivery service at an additional cost of £5.95. Please note home delivery is not an express option.



Our School uniform is now available to purchase online through our new web store https://gooddies.co.uk

## **Order Deadline Dates**

2rders placed before midnight an the 15th of the month will be delivered approximately the end of the month. Orders placed before midnight on the last day of the month will be delivered approximately the middle of the billowing month. Please allow up to 20 working days from cut off during the busy months of lune – Seatember. Deliveries into school are free, however, you do have the option to pay for home delivery. PLEASE NOTE – Home delivery is not an express option. Any orders that are due for delivery into school while the schools are classed will be held in our warehouse until the school re-opens.

We currently have a large amount of stock in school that we are selling at the 2022 prices and these can still be purchased via SCOPAY while stocks last. Please see below for the current available stock and prices.

Sweatshirts	Adult - Small	SOLD OUT
	Age 13	SOLD OUT
	Age 11-12	£9.30
	Age 9-10	SOLD OUT
	Age 7-8	SOLD OUT
	Age 5-6	£9.30
Cardigans	Age 13	£9.80
	Age 11-12	£9.80

Age 9-10	SOLD OUT
Age 7-8	£9.80
Age 5-6	£9.80

The following items will continue to be available from the school and can be purchased via SCOPAY

 PE Bag
 £4.50

 Swimming Hat
 £2.50

#### Message from WBC Cost of Living Help Hub

Credit cards, loans or going into debt for essentials? Get help during summer holidays.

The rising cost of living continues to impact people across the area, even in the summer months. Especially with the summer holidays almost here. To get by many are:

- Getting into credit card debt
- Using overdrafts
- Relying on friends and family
- Stopping eating or making other sacrifices

If you're doing this, you could access support. <u>Apply for the Household Support Fund</u>.

It can be used to pay for food, bills, energy and other essentials.

Our partners can provide £100 per household with a food, fuel or cash voucher through the Household Support Fund. It's open to anyone to apply. You don't need to receive benefits to be able to apply.

There's also specific support for families where children receive means-tested free school meals.

This is £15 per child, per week. So, you could get £90 to help this summer, as well as help at Christmas, next Easter holidays and the half-terms between. <u>Apply for the Household Support Fund.</u>

Other support options:

- Our cost of living help hub for Council Tax discounts and exemptions;
- <u>Check our food map</u> for help with where you can get low cost or free food;
- Use the Citizens Advice calculator to see how to maximise your income;
- Use the Entitled To budget tool to plan your spending;
- <u>Contact Citizens Advice Wokingham</u> for advice and support on what you're facing.

Government's Help for Households website

### Help with food - feeding thousands and cutting food waste

Have you heard of SHARE? The volunteer group provides food to about 2,500 residents each week, for free, to help reduce food waste and support those struggling with the cost of living. Since its launch in 2020 it has saved more than 1,000 tonnes of food from being wasted. All the stock is surplus or end of day items from local supermarkets (Waitrose, M&S, Tesco, Morrisons and Lidl) and food suppliers which would otherwise go to waste.

The group's newest site in Arborfield (pictured) has just been confirmed to continue running fortnightly through the summer. You can <u>check the dates on our website</u>.

SHARE's teams run sites in Woodley, Wokingham, Shinfield, Finchampstead and beyond each week. If you're struggling with the cost of living, this group could support you. <u>View the food map</u> for more information.

Other support options you could use:

 <u>Apply for Healthy Start vouchers</u> – help to buy food and milk if you're more than 10 weeks or pregnant or have a child under four, eligibility criteria apply Check if you're entitled to any <u>Government cost of living payments for</u>

2023/24 Check if you're entitled to any <u>Government cost of tiving payments for</u>

- Check if you can use the <u>National Databank if you're cut off from internet usage</u> think free mobile data, text and calls (like a foodbank for data connectivity)
- If you'd prefer to talk to someone about your situation, contact the Citizens Advice Wokingham One Front Door. Use the <u>online referral form</u> or call 0808 278 7958, Monday to Friday



Diary Dates		
Next Term		
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Start of the Autumn Term	

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# MEET THE GUIDE DOGS



Come and meet some guide dogs and their owners and find out about the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association Just drop-in! All welcome Tuesday 15 and Thursday 31 August 10am-12noon

